

Demographic Change Task Force

Lexington 2020 Vision

Background and Charge

June 2008

Mission of the Task Force

The Mission for the Demographic Change Task Force is to investigate how Lexington's population characteristics have changed and may continue to change in the future; to identify how these changes affect public policy and the nature of the Lexington community; and to frame the issues for Town government. The Task Force work will carry forward the work of the Scoping Group as documented in their report.

The Task Force will proceed to gather and analyze data, explore issues, examine trends, and identify challenges resulting from changing demographics. The Task Force will begin its work in June 2008, develop a work plan and schedule, and complete its work by spring of 2009. The 2020 Vision Committee liaison will periodically report back to the larger committee on the Task Force's progress, and will provide Committee feedback to the Task Force. Task Force members will present their findings to elected boards and the community once they have completed their report.

Procedures and Logistics

Task Forces are working groups of the 2020 Vision Committee, and Task Force members are considered volunteer employees of the Town. The Task Force may decide its own work plan and meeting schedule, but must comply with the open meeting and public records laws. This means holding meetings in a public place, posting meetings in advance with the Town Clerk, and recording meeting minutes. The final report of the Task Force is a public document that will be published on the Town's website.

Task Force Model

The 2020 Vision Committee has been using a Task Force model to study and recommend implementation measures for several important community goal areas that were identified in 2000 and revised in 2003.

- The Budget and Constructive Community Discourse Task Forces submitted final reports in early 2005.
- The Sustainability Task Force completed its report in spring of 2007.
- The Economic Development Task Force is expected to complete its report later this spring.

Many recommendations of these Task Forces have been implemented or are under discussion by the Board of Selectmen and other Town officials.

The analysis and findings of the Demographic Change Task Force will also inform long-range community decisions and actions. However, the Task Force is not expected to

recommend specific actions. Rather, the Task Force's work will provide a context for the challenges faced by policy-makers in meeting the public service needs of a changing population. The Town Manager may provide staff resources for specific tasks if needed.

Lexington 2020 Vision Process

Lexington 2020 Vision is an ongoing long-range public effort begun in 1999 to empower and engage residents in shaping the Town of Lexington's future. It seeks to provoke discussion, support dialogue, and help guide decision-making and action throughout the community. The 2020 Vision Committee is charged with keeping the vision and goals fresh, and engaging individuals, groups, and local government in working toward our collectively desired future. The 2020 Vision process focuses on a time horizon at least 20 years beyond the current and immediate agendas of most public discussion and activity.